STORE STATE

Rule Up For Final Action

Proposed Repeal of WAC 230-04-192

Person to hold one bingo license and one amusement game license at a time.

ITEM 11 (a) on the April 9, 2004, Commission Meeting Agenda.

Statutory Authority 9.46.070

Who proposed the rule change?

Staff, at the request of some bingo licensees.

Why is this rule change needed?

Prior to 2002, RCW 9.46.0205 restricted bingo licensees to three days of operation per week. WAC 230-04-192 limits bingo operators to one license within the county they are principally located. This rule prevents licensees from circumventing the three day limitation. In 2002, the Legislature amended RCW 9.46.0205 to remove the three days of operation per week limit for bingo games (copy attached). Bingo licensees may now operate as often as they choose within the county their organization is principally located.

RCW 9.46.070 (1) (copy attached) does not allow the Commission to deny a license to an otherwise qualified applicant in an effort to limit the number of licenses issued. This rule repeal would allow bingo operators to hold more than one license (i.e. operate at more than one location) within the county they are principally located.

Attached:

RCW 9.46.0205 and RCW 9.46.070

Letter dated November 24, 2003, notifying bingo licensees of the proposed repeal of WAC 230-04-192. E-mail dated December 1, 2003, from American Legion Post 129 supporting the repeal of 230-04-192.

Statements against the proposed rule change.

At the February 2004 Commission meeting, Don Kaufman, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Spokane, testified he was concerned that repealing this rule would increase competition among bingo operations in a county.

Which licensees will be directly impacted?

Bingo licensees.

What are the potential impacts to the agency?

Minimal.

Staff recommendation.

Adoption.

Proposed effective date.

July 1, 2004.